

interview was rough, take a look at hers. Judge Jackson showed incredible grace during more than 20 hours of questioning that at times was incredibly hostile and rude. I would challenge any Member of this Chamber to endure that level of pressure without cracking. I am quite certain I couldn't do it. She is eminently qualified, and we have seen her judicial temperament up close.

What really makes Judge Jackson's nomination historic is this number: 115. One hundred and fifteen. That is how many U.S. Supreme Court Justices have served in our Nation's entire history—115. Out of those 115 Justices, 108 have been White males. Just think about it for a moment. In other words, nearly 94 percent of the Supreme Court Justices in our Nation's history have been White men. That is a very exclusive club.

And like many very exclusive clubs, it has tended to leave a lot of folks out in the cold. In a country as magnificently diverse as ours, that is simply not right, and I am so grateful that President Biden understands this.

The decisions made by the U.S. Supreme Court touch every single American. What does the right to vote truly mean under our Constitution? Freedom of religion; our freedom of speech. How are we as consumers or workers treated under our Constitution? Can a public school district force White students to attend one school while sending Black students to another? Can that same public school district refuse to educate students with disabilities? Can a couple be prevented from marrying and spending the rest of their lives caring for one another because they happen to be gay? And can a State override a woman's right to privacy and force her to continue a pregnancy that puts her own health and future at risk?

These are some of the types of decisions made by the U.S. Supreme Court every day. And when the Supreme Court doesn't look like America, it means that its decisions are less likely to take into account the lives and the needs of all Americans.

The late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had a straightforward answer when she was asked how many women should serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. How many was enough? "Nine," she would say.

Well, we are not quite there yet—but four? I would say that is a pretty good start. And a Black woman Justice? It is about time. It is past time.

You may have seen a wonderful photo making the rounds. It is of Judge Jackson's 17-year-old daughter Leila. It was from the first day of the nomination hearing. Leila is wearing a beautiful lavender suit and sitting behind her mom.

The expression on her face is absolutely priceless. She is looking at her mom with such admiration and pride.

Well, Leila isn't alone. Millions of young Black girls and their moms and their grandmas are looking at Judge

Jackson with that same pride and admiration. They have never had someone who looks like them serving on our Nation's highest Court.

And how many of these young girls will see this incredibly accomplished woman and think, "Hey, that could be me"? I hope they all do.

I will be honored to support Judge Jackson's confirmation. I am excited. I am proud of her. And I urge my colleagues to do the same. It is past time.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF JAMES C. O'BRIEN

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for the nomination of James O'Brien to be Coordinator of Sanctions Policy at the U.S. Department of State.

At a time when we must keep the pressure on Putin to end his unprovoked, brutal, and illegal war against Ukraine, we need experienced officials at the helm to ensure that we are using every sanctions tool against Russia. As the power of our sanctions has been amplified by working closely with our allies and partners around the world, the long-term success of those efforts will be greatly enhanced by having a Senate-confirmed official in place to ensure that those coordination efforts continue and that we maximize the costs on Russia's economy.

Mr. O'Brien is exactly the type of leader that the Office of Sanctions Coordination needs. And he brings impressive substantive expertise and professional background to this role.

Mr. O'Brien is a former career employee of the State Department and recipient of numerous performance awards. He has served two U.S. administrations as a special envoy, for Hostage Affairs, and for the Balkans. Over the course of his career at the State Department, he has led a large and successful sanctions program and advised on a range of issues, including peace negotiations in Europe, scientific and environmental agreements, and initiatives to investigate and prosecute persons responsible for war crimes.

In addition, Mr. O'Brien has negotiated agreements protecting intellectual property rights for scientific cooperation with China, promoted environmentally sound international trade regulations for hazardous and recyclable materials, and worked to make public-private partnerships and corporate social responsibility an important element in American foreign policy. As the first Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, he helped establish the office and worked for the safe return of 100 American citizens.

I have no doubt that he will bring the same dedication and rigor to advancing and coordinating U.S. sanctions policy as he has his prior roles.

I strongly support confirming Mr. O'Brien. His confirmation will be critical to enhancing our sanctions efforts at this critical time. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his

nomination, along with all of the foreign affairs nominations pending before this body, to advance our national security interests and improve our representation abroad.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the O'Brien nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador. (New Position)

VOTE ON O'BRIEN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the O'Brien nomination?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE).

The result was announced—yeas 71, nays 26, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 130 Ex.]

YEAS—71

Baldwin	Heinrich	Romney
Barrasso	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Rounds
Blumenthal	Hoeven	Sanders
Blunt	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	Kelly	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Burr	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cantwell	Leahy	Smith
Capito	Lujan	Stabenow
Cardin	Manchin	Sullivan
Carper	Markey	Tester
Casey	McConnell	Thune
Collins	Merkley	Tillis
Cornyn	Murkowski	Toomey
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Van Hollen
Crapo	Murray	Warner
Duckworth	Ossoff	Warnock
Durbin	Padilla	Warren
Feinstein	Paul	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wicker
Graham	Portman	Wyden
Grassley	Reed	Young
Hassan	Risch	

NAYS—26

Blackburn	Fischer	Lummis
Boozman	Hagerty	Marshall
Braun	Hawley	Moran
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cotton	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cruz	Kennedy	Shelby
Daines	Lankford	Tuberville
Ernst	Lee	

NOT VOTING—3

Coons	Menendez	Sasse
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.